



DRAFT MINUTES
of the
Meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
SANTA BARBARA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT
A Public Agency
Tuesday, September 27, 2005
5:30 PM
TELEVISED (City TV Channel 18 & GATV 20)

Santa Barbara MTD Auditorium
550 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

John Britton, Chair, David Davis, Vice Chair, Brian Fahnestock, Secretary, Dick Weinberg, Director, Logan Green, Director

MTD EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Sherrie Fisher, General Manager, Jerry Estrada, Assistant General Manager/Controller, Tiara Lakey, Executive Assistant to the Board and the General Manager, Steve Maas, Manager of Strategic Planning and Compliance, David Damiano, Manager of Transit Development and Community Relations, Gabriel Garcia, HR & Risk Manager Gary Johns, Manager of Operations, Mike Cardona, Acting Manager of Maintenance, Tom Sheldon, IT Network Administrator, Dave Morse, Superintendent of Operations, Paul Tumbleson, Manager of Passenger Facilities, Louie Jones, Driver, Bob Nilsson, Supervisor, Joe Mendoza, Driver, Kenn Glenn, Senior Scheduler, Jim Haggerty, Quality Assurance Manager, Sarah Herbold, Marketing Coordinator, Nick Di Napoli, Graphic Design

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gregg Hart, Public Information and Government Affairs Coordinator for the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), Jim Kemp, Executive Director of SBCAG, Steve Musick, Matt Dobberteen, County of Santa Barbara Alternative Transportation Manager, members of the families of Paul Tumbleson, Kenn Glenn, Sal Alvarez and Louie Jones

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Britton called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

2. ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Britton noted that all members were present.

3. REPORT REGARDING POSTING OF AGENDA

The General Manager reported that the agenda for this meeting was posted at the MTD administrative headquarters, on the MTD website and mailed to the media of general circulation on September 23, 2005.

4. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Director Fahnestock moved to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for the meeting of August 30, 2005. Vice Chair Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Davis moved to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for the meeting of September 13, 2005. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. CASH REPORTS

Director Fahnestock moved to approve the cash report for September 6, 2005, through September 19, 2005. Vice Chair Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THIS CONCLUDED THE CONSENT CALENDAR

At this time the General Manager reported that Alan Witcher, 30-year employee of MTD had passed away after being involved in an accident. Alan Witcher was MTD's Mechanics' Trainer and a "Master of his Craft". The General Manager stated that MTD has suffered a huge loss professionally, but most of all personally. A moment of silence was observed.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

6. INTRODUCTION/WELCOME- DICK WEINBERG, BOARD MEMBER APPOINTEE

At this time Chair Britton noted that former Board Director, Olivia Rodriguez was in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Chair Britton introduced MTD's newest Board member, Dick Weinberg. Chair Britton noted that Director Weinberg a former Mayor and City Council member of the City of Carpinteria and has also served on the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG). Chair Britton stated that the Board is honored to have him as a member.

7. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

a) The Board honored Louie Jones, Driver (DOH 8/19/74), Bob Nilsson, Supervisor (DOH 8/19/74), Joe Mendoza, Driver (DOH 8/25/75), Kenn Glenn, Senior Scheduler (DOH 10/11/71) and Jim Haggerty, Quality Assurance Manager, (DOH 8/20/74) for their 30+ years of service with MTD.

Robert Bosch, Driver (DOH 9/2/75), Monte Kimzey, Security Officer (DOH 8/23/72) were also honored, but unable to attend tonight's meeting.

b) The General Manager invited Jerry Estrada, Assistant General Manager/Controller, David Damiano, Manager of Transit Development and Community Relations and Gary Johns, Manager of Operations forward to introduce, recognize and thank employees for their assistance during the implementation of Trapeze, MTD's new scheduling software:

Those recognized were: Paul Tumbleson, Manager of Passenger Facilities, Kenn Glenn, Senior Scheduler, Tom Sheldon, IT Network Administrator, and Sal Alvarez, Transit Center Manager and Supervisor. Mr. Johns noted that Dave Morse, Superintendent of Operations and Jim Brackett, Supervisor were unable to attend tonight's meeting. Their contributions during the implementation Trapeze were noted. The General Manager also thanked Mr. Estrada, Mr. Damiano and Mr. Johns for their

efforts. All of these employees were presented with a certificate of recognition and it was noted that they would all attend a lunch together at a later date.

8. EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

The Board honored Mr. Alvarez as MTD's Spotlight Employee of the Quarter (July-October 2005) for his outstanding performance. Mr. Alvarez started at MTD as a Driver, moving up to a Temporary Supervisor and currently is the Transit Center Manager and a Supervisor. The General Manager added that all of Mr. Alvarez' efforts are extraordinary and that he is always willing to go above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Alvarez stated that it is an honor and a privilege to be recognized.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Musick commented on the Calle Real property and requested that he receive a copy of questions that he had submitted at the 6/24/05 Facilities Committee meeting. He also commented on MTD's public notice regarding its goal for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program (DBE).

10. ANNUAL CONTRACT RENEWAL- SOUTH WEST ADMINISTRATORS (SWA) UNION HEALTH INSURANCE ADMINISTRATOR

The General Manager provided the Board with information regarding union employee health insurance renewal with SWA. She reported that the cost for the insurance came in lower than the agreed Contract amount, therefore the union employees will not have to pay any out of pocket expenses towards the coverage. Gabriel Garcia, HR & Risk Manager reviewed MTD's pro-rata policy with the Board.

11 & 12 (these items were opened together)

101 IN MOTION UPDATES & MEASURE D

Gregg Hart, Public Information and Government Affairs Coordinator for the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) presented the 101 in Motion Final Consensus recommendation to the Board. It consisted of elements of each of the Final 4 Packages, that includes widening of the freeway, commuter rail, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes, Environmental Impacts and Transportation Demand Management and Operational Improvements. He also reported that there has been a tremendous amount of community input sought during this process and this final package reflects the community consensus.

During the presentation, he noted a critical element of providing commuter rail would be to provide effective connecting bus service to transport the commuters to their worksites. The General Manager noted that the package also includes Global Positioning Software (GPS) to allow better passenger information and on-time performance.

At this time Director Fahnestock expressed some funding and future debt concerns involved with implementing this project. Mr. Hart replied that currently 101 in Motion is only seeking to conclude the conversation of the goals for the project that may include the use of Measure D funds as well as other sources. After the community has approved this Package and SBCAG's Board a discussion of funding will ensue.

Vice Chair Davis asked if there has been discussion regarding the congestion at the Rincon portion of the corridor. Mr. Hart replied that currently Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) is concentrating on the southern portion of the corridor, towards Los Angeles. 101 in Motion plans to meet with VCTC members to discuss this subject.

Director Weinberg noted that SBCAG has met with VCTC in the past and discussed their participation in sharing in the solution process regarding the problems faced by commuters from Ventura to Santa Barbara.

Vice Chair Davis expressed serious concerns regarding whether public transit will be treated fairly in terms of future funding. He stated that he is concerned because the Public Works Directors, who are members of the Measure D Expenditure Plan Committee, approached SBCAG's Board seeking authorization to not include direct funding for transit. This was at the SBCAG Board meeting of September 15, 2005. He added that it appeared the Public Works Directors were working outside of the system for a political goal; therefore he is worried that they cannot be trusted in the future when dispersing transit funds. He noted that his comments are not directed towards the staff of 101 in Motion or SBCAG.

Mr. Hart stated that he had also been surprised at this move and urges MTD to express these concerns at SBCAG's Board meetings. He closed by saying that in order to proceed with solutions for the 101 in Motion, for now, funding issues need to be separated from the solution.

Mr. Musick commented on the emerging consensus, commuter rail, traffic congestion and Calle Real.

Director Fahnestock stated that he is still concerned about the level of funding available for this project.

Jim Kemp, Executive Director of SBCAG provided the Board with information regarding the expenditure plan committee process, reauthorization voting changes and stated that there will be further community outreach. He noted that additional input is needed from supporters for alternative transportation. He concluded by saying that he agrees that MTD should not have to ask for funding for service from each City, year after year and that a longer-term commitment needs to be established. Additionally, further discussions and meetings between other South Coast agencies, MTD and the Expenditure Plan Committee are planned. The Board thanked Mr. Kemp for an informative discussion.

Vice Chair Davis made a motion to thank the staff of 101 in Motion and SBCAG for presenting at tonight's meeting and requested that MTD's Board direct MTD staff and the External Affairs Committee to continue to participate and represent public transit in the ongoing discussions related to Measure D. Director Weinberg seconded the Motion. The motion passed unanimously. Approval for support of the emerging consensus was not voted on at this time.

The General Manager also thanked Mr. Hart and Mr. Kemp for the presentations and for their continued support for public transportation. She noted that a new South Coast Committee related to Measure D is evolving to discuss the expenditure plan. This meeting will be held on Monday. Mr. Kemp reported that the October 5th meeting of SBCAG's Subregional Committee has been postponed. He added that the Subregional Committee would meet to review and discuss the emerging consensus on 101 in Motion before the Committee takes its recommendation SBCAG's Board.

13. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

The General Manager announced that MTD would host a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Calle Real/Old Town Shuttle on September 30, 2005, at 11:00 AM in front of the Goleta Valley Community Center. She added that Goleta's Mayor, Jean Blois and members of Goleta's City Council have been invited as well as MTD's Board. Mr. Damiano provided the Board with information regarding MTD's press release and ad campaign for the service and ribbon cutting

ceremony. He also provided the Board with ridership information, noting that the weekday ridership (103 passengers carried vs. goal of 120) is nearing MTD's set goal for the service and the weekend ridership (81 vs. goal of 60) has surpassed the weekend goal set.

The General Manager reported on a meeting of Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency that she and Mr. Damiano had recently attended. She stated that they had been updated on the very complicated issues that rail faces. Mr. Damiano added that MTD had been invited to submit comments regarding the Draft Strategic Plan for the North Corridor. The comments submitted encouraged the group to include transit in their plans as rail moves into our community. The General Manager added that MTD had provided some shuttle service to and from this event.

Mr. Damiano updated the Board on recent booster service additions that had been added to the SBCC and UCSB routes. These services were needed due to overloads on these lines. The General Manager added that MTD is experiencing record ridership and that this may reflect rising fuel costs. Director Green thanked MTD staff for adding the additional 24X service.

The General Manager reported that she has received two requests to park vehicles on MTD's property. The first is from Santa Barbara Foresters, who would like to park their "Hugs for Cubs" bus in MTD's yard when it is not in use. Easy Lift Transportation has also requested to park three of their vehicles at MTD. She stated that she would be back to the Board with more information at a later date.

The Board discussed Downtown Waterfront Shuttle & Wharf Woody Ridership/Aug. 05 Reports that they had received. Vice Chair Davis asked why there has been a substantial drop in ridership on these shuttles since the late 1990's. The General Manager replied that the fare increase, a drop in tourism after 9/11 and a decrease in the amount of service hours provided, were factors in this decrease. She added, that another contributing factor was that the previous schedule cards were smaller and did not fit properly in the card racks located in the hotel lobbies along these routes. Mr. Damiano has created new cards that are larger, which also feature a perforated portion, which fits into a wallet after it has been separated from the larger card. There was a discussion regarding revenue hours, which is a measure of "in" service time, used by the transit industry.

The General Manager stated that she is happy to report that removal of the stockpiled soil from the Calle Real property has been completed. She added that soil sampling was conducted after the piles were removed and the results are negative for any leaching into the soil below. MTD is now waiting for a response from the County regarding the "no further action required" portion of the process, before the project is finalized. Vice Chair Davis requested that discussions regarding the sale of the property resume, since this project is nearing completion.

The General Manager announced that MTD's Employee Activities Committee (EAC) would hold a MTD Employees' rummage sale to benefit Hurricane Katrina victims. The sale will be held on October 8, 2005, in the parking lot at Santa Barbara High School, from 7 AM-1:00 PM. All proceeds will be donated to Direct Relief International.

Vice Chair Davis asked if MTD has an emergency preparedness plan. The General Manager replied that MTD does have procedures in place and that additions to the plan are ongoing, as well as working with the Santa Barbara Police and County Fire Department. Vice Chair Davis stated that MTD should request to be included in other agencies' emergency preparedness plan discussions. The General Manager noted that she would speak to the Santa Barbara

Grand Jury to provide them with information about MTD and to discuss MTD's emergency preparedness plan.

Vice Chair Davis also requested that Mr. Garcia return to the Board with information regarding how MTD solicits employee suggestions and ideas. Chair Britton replied that this topic had been discussed at the last Human Resources/Personnel Committee meeting and that Mr. Garcia is currently working on this project.

14. OTHER BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Britton reported that the Finance Committee had met to review the Draft Financials with Mr. Estrada. He noted that these would be brought before the Board when finalized. Vice Chair Davis reported that member of the External Affairs Committee had met with Mayor Blum, to discuss Measure D and 101 in Motion. He added that they will also meet with Supervisors Rose and Carbajal tomorrow and hopes that Director Weinberg can continue these discussions with City of Carpinteria Council member, Donna Jordan. Director Weinberg replied that he would.

15. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION-CLAIMS REVIEW (MARYLINA MOBLEY VS. MTD AND GWEN KENNEDY VS. MTD)

The Board met in closed session pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, conference with legal counsel (Anticipated Litigation) to discuss significant exposure of litigation between:

- a) Marylina Mobley vs. MTD
No action was taken.
- b) Gwen Kennedy vs. MTD
The Board instructed staff that no further settlement amount is authorized.

16. ADJOURNMENT